CALIFORNIA GARDEN

IN THIS NUMBER

PREMIUM LIST TWENTY-THIRD
FALL FLOWER SHOW
MR. ROBINSON RETURNS IN
LATH HOUSE MATTERS
A New Department Conducted by Walter S. Merrill
GARDEN PROBLEMS

AUGUST, 1929 TEN CENTS

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The magazine—"California Garden," a practical local guide published monthly for 20 years. Subscription $1.00 per year.

The official organ of the San Diego Floral Association, now in its 21st year of continuous activities.

All interested in garden matters and civic beautification are invited to join. Dues $1.00 per year. Magazine and Membership combined $1.50 per year. P. O. Box 323, San Diego.

The California Garden

Published Monthly by the San Diego Floral Association
One Dollar per Year, Ten Cents per Copy

Vol. 20 SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA, AUGUST, 1929 No. 14

PREMIUM LIST

TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL FALL SHOW
SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, AUGUST 17 and 18, 1929
MAIN PLAZA, BALBOA PARK
Opening Saturday, 2 P. M.
Admission, 25 cents

Section A—Dahlias—Amateurs

Class

* 1. Best Collection of Dahlias, one of each variety. Prize Competitive Cup to be won for three years.
2. Best Six Blooms Cactus, one or more varieties.
3. Best Six Blooms Hybrid Cactus, one or more varieties.
4. Best Six Blooms Decorative, one or more varieties.
* 5. Best Six Blooms Miniature Decorative, one or more varieties.
6. Best Six Blooms Fancy or Variegated, one or more varieties.
7. Best Six Blooms Peony, one or more varieties.
8. Best Six Blooms Pompon, one or more varieties.
9. Best Six Blooms Show, one or more varieties.
10. Best Six Blooms Semi-double or Duplex, one or more varieties.
11. Best Six Blooms Single, one or more varieties.
12. Best Collection Cactus Dahlia, one bloom each variety.
13. Best Collection Hybrid Cactus, one bloom each variety.
14. Best Collection Decorative, one bloom each variety.
15. Best Collection Peony, one bloom each variety.
16. Best Collection Pompons, two blooms each variety.
17. Best Collection Show, one bloom each variety.
18. Best Collection Semi-double or Duplex, three blooms each variety.
19. Best Collection Single, three blooms each variety.
* 20. Most Artistic Basket of Dahlias in Show, use of other foliage permitted.
* 21. Most Artistic Arrangement Vase or Bowl of Dahlias.

Section B.—Zinnias—Amateurs.

* 22. Best Collection of Zinnias.
23. Best Four Blooms Zinnias, Red or Red Shades.
24. Best Four Blooms Zinnias, White or White Shades.
25. Best Four Blooms Zinnias, Pink or Pink Shades.
26. Best Four Blooms Zinnias, Orange or Orange Shades.
27. Best Four Blooms Zinnias, Yellow or Yellow Shades.
28. Best Four Blooms Zinnias, Lavender or Lavender Shades.
29. Best Four Blooms, Any Other Color.
30. Best Four Blooms, Picotte Type.
31. Best Twenty-five Blooms Mixed Zinnias, Small Mexican.
32. Best Collection Dahlia Flowering Zinnias.
33. Best Collection Lilliput Zinnias.
34. Best Arranged Vase or Bowl of Zinnias, Greenery Allowed.
35. Best Arranged Basket of Zinnias, Greenery Allowed.

*Zinnia Sweepstakes.
San Diego Floral Association Bronze Medal.

Section C.—General—Amateurs.

* 36. Best Collection Asters, American Beauty Type.
37. Best Collection Asters, Crego Type.
38. Best Collection Asters. Victoria Type.
39. Best Collection Asters, Single Type.
40. Best Vase of Asters, any variety, 25 blooms.

41. Best Arranged Basket of Asters any variety, greenery allowed.

*Aster Sweepstakes.

* 42. Best Arranged Basket of Flowers.
* 43. Best Arranged Vase, Bowl or Dish of Flowers.
44. Best Arranged Basket of Gladiolas.
* 45. Best Japanese Arrangement of Flowers in Bowl or Vase.
46. Best Collection of Bulbous Flowers.
47. Best Display of African Marigolds.
48. Best Display of French Marigolds.
49. Best Display of Single Petunias.
50. Best Display of Double Petunias.
* 51. Best Collection of Perennials.
* 52. Best Collection of Annuals.
53. Best Exhibit of Potted Fibrous Begonias.
54. Best One Specimen Potted Fibrous Begonia.
55. Best Collection of Potted Tuberous Begonias.
56. Best One Specimen Potted Tuberous Begonia.
* 57. Best Collection Rex Begonias grown in pots or other receptacle.
58. Best Collection of Ferns.
59. Best Decorative House Plant.
60. Best Flowering Vine (flowers and foliage).
61. Best Collection of Cut Sprays Flowering Trees or Shrubs.
62. Best Collection Berried Shrubs (cut sprays or in pots).
63. Best New Flower or Plant not before exhibited.
* 64. Best Exhibit of Water Lilies.
* 65. Best Dining Table Decoration, Flowers and Foliage.

Section D—General

Open to All Competition

* 66. Best Collection of Begonias, Ferns and House Palms.
Dunning-Miller Cup.
67. Best Specimen Rex Begonia, San Diego Seedling, grown in pot or other receptacle.
* 68. Best General Exhibit of Begonias grown in pots or boxes.
69. Best Specimen Maidenhair Fern.
70. Best Specimen Fern other than Maidenhair.
71. Best Fern Hanging Basket.
72. Best Hanging Basket other than Fern.
73. Best Exhibit of summer flowering lilies.
74. Best Display of Gladiolas.
75. Best Collection of Cut Specimens of Fuschias.
* 76. Best Display of Cacti, Succulents or Rock Garden Plants suitably arranged.
77. Best Display of a Small Rock Garden.
78. Best Dish of Growing Succulents and Cacti.

Section E.—Dahlias

Open to All Competition

* 79. Best Keeping Dahlias, not less than six blooms, excepting pompon and show varieties, judged at 2 P. M. last day of show. No preservative treatment allowed.
80. Best Established Three-year-old Seedling.
81. Best Collection Unregistered Seedlings.
82. Best 1928 Seedling.
83. Best 1929 Seedling.
* 84. One Best Bloom Exhibited at Show, stem and foliage considered.
85. Smallest Perfect Pompon Dahlia.
86. Most Artistic Basket of Pompons in Show, use of other foliage permitted.
* 87. Dahlia Cup for best six blooms, one bloom each of six classes, one bloom only in each vase.
Harris Seed Company Cup.
* 88. Best Six Blooms, six varieties, California productions.
San Diego Floral Association Silver Medal.

Section F—Dahlias—Professionals

* 89. Best General Display Arranged for Effect, potted plants and foliage allowed for embellishment.
90. Best Display of Dahlias, not less than six varieties.
91. Best Twelve Blooms, any variety.
92. Best Twelve Blooms Cactus, one or more varieties.
93. Best Twelve Blooms Hybrid Cactus, one or more varieties.
94. Best Twelve Blooms Collarettes, one or more varieties.
95. Best Twelve Blooms Decorative, one or more varieties.
96. Best Twelve Blooms of Fancy Variegated, one or more varieties.
97. Best Twelve Blooms Peony. one or more varieties.
98. Best Twelve Blooms Pompon, one or more varieties.
99. Best Twelve Blooms Show, one or more varieties.
100. Best Twelve Blooms Semi-double or Duplex, one or more varieties.
101. Best Collection Cactus Dahlias, one bloom each variety.
102. Best Collection Hybrid Cactus, one bloom each variety.
103. Best Collection Collarettes, one bloom each variety.
104. Best Collection Decorative, one bloom each variety.
105. Best Collection Fancy or Variegated, one bloom each variety.
106. Best Collection Peony Flowered, one bloom each variety.

107. Best Collection Pompons, three blooms each variety.
108. Best Collection Show, one bloom each variety.
109. Best Collection Semi-double or Duplex, three blooms each.
110. Best Collection Single Dahlias, three blooms each variety.
111. Best Collection of California Dahlias, twelve blooms, twelve varieties.
*112. Best Largest Collection Registered Varieties.

Section G—General—Professionals

*113. Best Collection of Decorative Plants and Flowers, arranged for effect in space 100 square feet.
114. Best Collection of Twenty-five Shrubs for Garden Use.
115. Best Collection of Street Trees.
116. Best Collection of Lawn, Ornamental or Shade Trees.
117. Best Collection of Junipers.
118. Best Collection of Fuschias, (growing plants).
119. Best Collection of Vines.
120. Best Collection of Potted or Boxed Ferns.
121. Best Specimen Sword Fern.
122. Best Specimen Fern Other than Sword Fern.
123. Best Decorative Plant for House.
124. Best New Plant or Flower not exhibited before.
125. Best Collection of Potted Plants.
126. Best Vase, Basket or Other Arrangement of Zinnias.
127. Best Collection of Potted Petunias.
128. Best Collection of Zinnias.
129. Best Collection of Asters.
*130. Best Arranged Basket of Flowers.
131. Best Arranged Basket of Gladiolas.
132. Best Exhibit of Summer Flowering Lilies.
*133. Best Exhibit of Water Lilies.
*134. Best Civic or Service Display of Plants and Flowers; Quality and Arrangement to be main points.
135. Best Exhibit of Garden Pottery (limit 20 pieces).

RULES

1. All exhibits must be in place and properly entered by 11 a. m. of the first day of the Show so that judging may be completed and awards made before opening. All vases, baskets, etc., belonging to exhibitors, must be called for Monday morning, not later than 11:00 o'clock. **No exhibitor will be allowed to be present while judging is going on.**
2. All pot plants must have been in the possession of the exhibitor at least three months; all other flowers and plants except collected wild flowers must have been grown by the exhibitor, except where used for table decoration.
3. The committee on awards is authorized to give suitable award for any meritorious exhibit not included in classes named above.
4. **Exhibits can be entered in one class only.**
5. Vases are loaned without charge for cut flowers in the competitive classes.
6. Exhibits are, from the commencement of the Show, under the jurisdiction of the Show officials, and no exhibit shall be removed during or after the close of the Show without the authority of the officials in charge.
7. Entries will not be considered by judges unless meritorious.
8. All Exhibits must be labeled with the correct names of the plants on white cards 2x3 inches, which will be furnished without charge. Names of exhibitors in competitive classes positively must not appear on exhibits until after awards have been made. (Entries in class 134 excepted from this rule.)
9. In classes where a given number of blooms is specified, any excess or deficiency of count shall constitute cause for disqualification.
10. All Exhibitors must place their names on bottoms of containers for identification.
11. All exhibits are staged in conformity with the rules of the Show. Deviation from the above rules may constitute cause for disqualification.
12. In class 64, best dining table decoration, fancy cloth should not be used. Decorations should be so arranged on table as to allow space for service. Table will be judged on the basis of the floral decoration only.
13. The Floral Association invites exhibits, however small, if meritorious. Exhibits of single specimens of flowers or plants will be duly considered.
14. Baskets and vases will be judged for arrangement and quality of blooms.

* Indicates cup or other trophy in class so indicated.

No Fee Is Charged for Making Entries in This Show

A Display is an arrangement for quality and artistic effect.

A Collection is a variety of kinds brought together.

Dahlias will be judged according to the points recommended by American Dahlia Society, which are:

Color	20
Stem and Foliage	25
Substance	15
Form	20
Size	20
	100

CHAIRMEN TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL FALL FLOWER SHOW
August 17 and 18, 1929

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Callendar—Phone Hillcrest 1550-J or National 171-W:
Dahlias—Classes 1-21 and 79-112.
Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Gibbs—Phone Hillcrest 1550-J:
Zinnias—Classes 22-35 and 126 and 128.
Mrs. Chas. Tracy—Phone Randolph 2764:
Asters—Classes 36-41.
Bulbous Flowers—Class 46.
African Marigolds—Class 47.
French Marigolds—Class 48.
Single Petunias—Class 49.
Double Petunias—Class 50.
Potted Petunias—Class 127.
Mrs. W. H. Brothers—Phone Hillcrest 2142-R:
Basket of Flowers—Classes 42 and 130.
Vase, Bowl or Dish of Flowers—Class 43.
Basket of Gladiolas—Classes 44 and 131.
Mrs. Murry Hawkins, Phone Chula Vista 500-J:
Japanese Arrangement—Class 45.
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Tuttle—Phone Main 4374:
Perennials—Class 51.
Annuals—Class 52.
Flowering Vine—Classes 60 and 119.
Flowering Trees and Shrubs—Class 61.
Berried Shrubs—Class 62.
Flower or Plant Not Before Exhibited—Classes 63 and 124.
Water Lilies—Classes 64 and 133.
Mrs. H. C. Dunning and Mrs. Geo. Rutledge—Phone Bayview 0379.
Begonias, House Plants, Ferns and House Palms—Classes 53-59, 66-72, 120-123.
Mrs. E. W. Delacour—Phone Main 3594 or Hillcrest 9579.
Decorated Dining Tables—Class 65.
Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Middlebrook—Phone Hillcrest 7100.
Summer Flowering Lilies—Classes 73 and 132.
Gladiolas—Class 74.
Fuchsias—Classes 75 and 118.
Cactus—Class 76.
Rock Gardens—Class 77.
Succulents—Class 78.
Mr. Walter Birch—Phone Main 0842:
Professionals.
Mrs. Elsie Case:
Clerking.
Mr. Milton Sessions:
Floor Plans.
Mr. John Morley:
Judges.
Mr. John Bakkers:
Gate Receipts.
Miss Mary Matthews and Mr. Jerabek:
Nomenclature.
Miss Winifred Sinclair—Phone Bayview 0202:
General Secretary and Information.
Mrs. Mary Greer—Phone Hillcrest 1550-J:
General Chairman.

JULY MEETING

The regular monthly meeting of the San Diego Floral Association was held Tuesday evening July 23rd in the Floral Building in Balboa Park.

Mrs. Greer, the president, after calling the meeting to order, made several announcements. The Silver Cup which the Association won at the Fiesta de los Flores at Pacific Beach was on exhibition and the president took this opportunity to thank all who had helped in making the exhibit a success.

Three open meetings were announced for August 6, invitations for that day having been extended by Mr. and Mrs. Robinson, Mr. J. W. Elliott and Mrs. Braun to visit their beautiful gardens.

Mrs. Greer then introduced the speaker of the evening, Mr. A. D. Robinson of Rosecroft Begonia Gardens. Mr .Robinson gave a brilliant talk on Tuberous Begonias and had on exhibition a most beautiful display of blooms which were later distributed among the audience. It was most fitting that Mr. Robinson who is again to be editor of the California Garden should have the first program of the new year—and he was most enthusiastically received .

Upon the adjournment of the meeting most delicious punch and wafers were served by the house committee.

NEW MEMBERS AND SUBSCRIBERS

H. E. Wyllie, San Diego.
Mrs. Kate Peterson, San Diego.
Mrs. F. H. Davis, San Diego.
Mrs. Walter Murphy, Hollywood.
Theodore Tooner, Los Angeles.
Carl Florin, Point Loma.
Mrs. J. A. Bellows, Point Loma.
Mr. Denneys Edmonds, La Jolla.
G. O. Thraelkill, Pacific Beach.
Josephine Yoch, Encinitas.
Mrs. J. H. Scannavais, San Francisco.
Fred Gill, Maricopa, Calif.

Patronize the Garden Advertisers.

The Aug. and Sept. Gardens

THE GARDEN

By Walter Birch

Seed planting time for many annuals and perennials that will bloom during winter and spring is now here, and it is important to get them in this month while the ground is still warm. With proper moisture and care the plants will be a good size before the ground gets cold. Many seeds planted later when the ground is cooling off and the nights cold, if they germinate at all, will make little growth during the winter.

Pansies should go in now so that you may have strong plants and good blooms early in the season, also your first planting of sweet peas. Prepare the ground for these by deep trenching and heavy manuring. Plant Snapdragons, the Majus and Maximum types are the best, the latter growing very tall, with immense blooms in many beautiful shades and colorings.

Stocks should also go in. the Giant Imperial variety will produce very large flowers with a very high percentage of doubles and many new shades of color. Cineraria seeds are also in order, and each year seems to introduce something more wonderful in size of blooms and range of color than the year before. Pentstemon and Gaillardias will do well from either cuttings or seed and are both easy to raise. Nemesia should be planted more round San Diego. It does well in any good garden soil, the flowers come in many beautiful shades of color and are fine for a bedding effect. That wonderful funnel shaped flower Salpiglossis with its indescribable shades of coloring in yellow, pink, rose, crimson, blue, etc., beautifully veined and pencilled, you should also plant, and Schizanthus or Butterfly Flower in many gay colors, particularly good for pot culture in winter. Primulas are also in season now, Malacoides is one of the most popular, color of lavender pink.

One could go on enumerating the different seeds and plants that could be planted now, but the foregoing will keep the average gardener busy for a while.

Have any of you had any success with Mecanopsis Baileyii, the wonderful Blue Poppy from Tibet? The writer imported seed of this two years ago, and gave some to several of the best propagators (some of them professional) in and around San Diego, but no one seems to have had any success. We still have some seed and if any of you want to try your luck, you can have some by calling at Harris Seed Co., 913 Seventh Street, and asking for your humble servant.

Early bulbs will demand attention right away now, particularly such kinds as Amaryllis, Bella Donna, Spanish Iris, Bearded Iris and Freesias. Bearded Iris are now available in many varieties of proven merit that have been grown in San Diego, and Harris Seed Co. (pardon the advertising) have over twenty-four varieties of the rhizomes of these attractive flowers, many of which come from the beautiful garden of Mrs. Herbert Evans of Mission Hills. If you have any doubt in your mind regarding the success of Bearded Iris in San Diego, just visit her garden during the blooming season .

Anemones and Ranunculus will soon be offered for sale, but you will be more successful if you do not plant for another month or more.

In common with most other flowers Anemones and Ranunculus are being improved every year in quality, size and coloring by the exhaustive study and painstaking care of the leading growers, so when you procure your bulbs it is well to know something about the source of supply, so that you may get the most worth while strains.

The unusually warm weather of the last month or so calls for thorough watering of all plants, trees and shrubs, so don't neglect deep irrigation followed by thorough cultivation.

Patronize the Garden Advertisers.

The California Garden

Editor
Alfred D. Robinson
Associate Editors
John Bakkers
Walter S. Merrill
Official Scribe
Neff K. Bakkers

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY

The San Diego Floral Association

P. O. Box 323 San Diego, Cal.

Main Office, San Diego, California

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Phone, Bayview 0202.

Member
American Rose Society, American Gladioli Society

Entered as second-class matter December 8, 1910, at the Post office at Point Loma, California, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

California Garden is on the list of publications authorized by the San Diego Retail Merchants Association.

MONTHLY ADVERTISING RATES

One Page ----------$15.00 Half Page, ----------$7.50
Quarter Page--------- 3.75 Eighth Page ---------- 2.00
Advertising Copy should be in by the 1st of each Month

Subscription, $1.00 per year

McKELVEY'S
Elite Printing Co. 851 2nd. St., San Diego

EDITORIAL

Following up my announcement in last month's issue I wish it observed that Walter S. Merrill has started to do things to Garden Problems and has very clearly outlined his intentions for the future, and to be sure he cannot get away he is enrolled upon this magazine's honorary and honorable staff as one of the Associate Editors. Regard him from now on as you would that smiling guide, philosopher and friend who with Delsarte action directs the traffic at our main street corner. Mr. Merrill would, I am sure, deny any expectation of reaching the charming technic of our prize traffic cop, but he undoubtedly will be an ever present help in Garden Problems. Lay your garden burdens upon him.

Another name also appears on our list, that of Neff K. Bakkers as Official Scribe. I have always felt that California Garden needed some one who would make a steady business of writing up the various meetings and other activities of the San Diego Floral Association from the magazine angle. The office of regular Secretary of such an organization calls for the fulfillment of a multitude of duties on these occasions that almost render the reportorial function impossible, one cannot receive subscriptions and answer the miscellaneous questions of members, and would-be members with the multitude of variations, and function as a garden critic at the same time. No one has before been appointed to do this, in fact there has been no such office, with the result that the magazine has published only the most general and concentrated accounts of addresses and activities full of real meat for hungry gardeners. There have been exceptions, of course, and the present appointment is the direct result of one of them, the account of a visit by the Floral to the gardens of K. O. Sessions by Mrs. Bakkers.

In addition to doing the regular dates, Mrs. Bakkers will be glad to be called in to help to feature anything in our gardens of the worthy or unusual.

Nothing in this must be regarded as in any way reflecting upon the ability or efficiency of the Secretary of the Floral Association and no one who knows Miss Sinclair and her work would ever dream of such a thing.

FLOWER SHOWS

It seems that this season August is the favored month for Flower Shows, though there is certainly room for question whether it is all to the good that the Fall dates of the past have crept back into the summers of the present. In the days of their beginning October saw Chrysanthemums the compelling reason for the date, then the Dahlia took it back to September, and now the Zinnia has hauled it further into August, with its possibility of extreme warmth and vacation complication. However, those that fix dates do so after a careful diagnosis of popular desire which, though by no means always right, does show how to tickle both exhibitors and the public that attends.

August 17 and 18 are the dates for the San Diego Annual event in Balboa Park, the earliest ever fixed and it is safe to assume from past successes that it will be a most worthwhile exhibition.

The week following, the 24th and 25th, La Mesa will Fiester and be Spanish in its own delightful way. There are those who would drive miles to see Mr. Osborn forgetting bugs and roses to do the fandango in costume.

I am looking through several copies of two English publications, Gardening Illustrated and Popular Gardening, that have been sent to us as a gift for lo these many years by

W. C. King of West Hartlepool, England, and I gladly seize this occasion to publicly and gratefully acknowledge a volunteer service that has no parallel in my experience. Stray copies of countless publications have been received, but except in the way of exchange, no other individual has approached the faithfulness of Mr. King. Perhaps he may have some reward in learning through this how much he has contributed to the amity of Floral folks seas apart. I am going through these magazines for items for our magazine and incidentally enjoying the journey all the way, then the papers go to the Floral Home for the Library Table and others browse pleasurably. But just now I want to emphasize the most obvious feature of both these publications and that is the tremendous number of small items contributed from every town and hamlet in the United Kingdom. In their pages can be found an account of the behavior of every new plant introduction in the North, South, East, West and Middle, under what conditions it was cultivated, in fact all about it. Take for instance the blue poppy from Tibet, Meconopsis Baileyi, around which a regular controversy has been staged till I have garnered information about its likes and dislikes more complete than any mere cultural directions could convey.

This is what I should like to see happen to California Garden, its pages filled with short snappy garden experiences by a multitude of contributing gardeners.

There have been various attempts to give us books on Gardening in the West, many, though by no means all, by folks with a remarkable store of information and a few with real experience, but it can hardly be said of any, that this is "the book," as the natives would say of William Robinson's "The English Garden." The reason for this lack does not lie so much in the literature but in the gardens and the gardeners. To have a typical garden there must be the type, and to fix the type the gardeners, and we of the West have neither in sufficient quantity to effect the general condition. We don't garden but we have garden crazes; we don't make gardens but we follow garden fashions whatever they may be at the moment and they change with bewildering speed and frequency. Quite recently I was visited by a lady whose name is almost immortalized in a wonderful cactus dahlia, which she originated, and the selling of dahlias had been a business with her for years. She was looking over Begonias because as she said, "The Dahlia is dead." This statement was quite startling but a bit of thought brought some justification. I had not heard, till this epitaph, one person say "Dahlia" for months. Gladiolus, some Iris, but mostly Cactus and Succulents and that very morning a snapshot had come in the mail of 1000 plants of Opuntia for propagation. The Opuntia stopped me for a moment, but there was my old enemy the slab cactus that punctured me fore and aft forty years ago whenever I hunted quail and that presented the worst and most prickly problem in clearing thousands of acres. With an iron rail slung behind a wagon I drove four unwilling plugs back and forth over a sea of spines and spent evenings and Sundays extracting those spines from the legs of protesting horses, and now I am sent a picture of a planting of one thousand slabs for propagation, and in between the years I see a row of Burbanks spineless reported to produce fruit that out-apricotted the apricot in flavor and made a peach ashamed of its taste. The spines came back and the apricot and the peach survive while the cactus is gone after housing a colony of rats, the only thing that appreciated it.

But this is about garden crazes, not one craze for in the life of this magazine, a short twenty years, the Chrysanthemum fades out as the dahlia rises, and it bows its many colored head to the flaming sword of the gladiolus, which the cactus is puncturing and this season visitors to my Begonias ask, "Where are your Fuchsias?"

While we run after new Gods for our gardens, season after season, we cannot build up garden type. No real garden can be filled with one thing. It is not conceivable that a straight cactus garden could be all of a satisfactory one to live with, to visit with day by day. Even the most rabid rosarian seeks relief from his roses in our climate in the summer. The English garden which we oftenest quote as the best gift of God to the gardener is like Robert Louis Stevenson's World, so full of a number of things that I am sure we should all be as happy as kings.

This is not a complaint but a mere statement of what I believe to be fact. It is a reflection in our gardens of our times, as exemplified in our general activities particularly in our agricultural department, horticultural perhaps, the term is of no consequence. We rush from oranges to lemons, to grapefruit, to avocado, to passion fruit, and we will return and do it again and again till ourselves, and everybody else, is surfeited.

Our floral trade papers are full of suggestions as to how to dispose of surpluses, surplus nursery stock, surplus cut flowers, and so far the remedy generally suggested is to make the goat, the public, plant more and use more, but if it plants more it must automatically use less. Of the nursery stock of ornamental plants now on hand in Southern

California a large percentage will never be planted out, and it never should be for the bulk of it belongs in a very short list of things now planted ad nauseam. Standardization is the trouble with both nursery and garden. Take the most lovely thing in the universe from a woman to a flower and repeat it often enough and it palls like too much candy.

VISITING THE GARDENS.

Sermons in stones, songs in brooks and glory in begonias. I'm sorry I didn't see Mr. Robinson's lath house before I read fairy tales because I should always have known what fairyland was like for crossing the threshold a sense of beautiful unreality enthralls the senses. On all sides are heard, "I didn't know begonias were like this." How could they! The first visit is a revelation to the most disinterested observer. To those of us who have been often there was a marked increase in artistry in conception, in design over anything before attempted. Lovely vistas have been opened up. At the entrance of one the Robinson blond baby with a tortoise cat on a blue toned oriental rug against a background of green moss interspersed with calladims of exquisite perfection flanked by another bed of moss over which a blue and gold parrot held contented sway and at the end of the perspective a garden seat with a cover of blue. This is the most conscious and the most studied of the many beautiful effects in the world's greatest begonia garden presided over by a whimsical guide who says he has made a clown of himself for twenty years that the San Diego Floral Association might live. Thank the gods that be, for clowns. We are but grown up children and the world is full of hurts and bruises and punishment and even yet a little buffoonery makes us forget to cry.

To the writer the most artistic effect was achieved by the tall growing, freely flowering begonia rubras and fuchsiodes against the rough gray wall and the straight standing hollyhock like little sentinels which latter made one think of Mary Contrary's pretty maids all in a row. I know now that those pretty maids were the same balsam like ramrod straight begonias with pink, waxen blooms growing hollyhock-wise up and down the stem. The Rosecroft Gardens are a convincing evidence of what a bower of use and beauty a protected garden may be. There is a playground surrounded by a border of riotous color. What an appeal the beauty of it must make to the child playing therein. Some pleasing contrast to the cinder shin-barking playgrounds of our youth, which we now reflect upon with horror. Who wouldn't like to remember playing on a green sward engulfed in beauty.

A great number of people went home Aug. 6 with souls steeped in color and enchantment. A great many will go back to Pennsylvania, Kansas, North Dakota and England and say, "The loveliest thing I ever saw was the Rosecroft Begonia Gardens."

The Elliot gardens across the way in contrast were symbolic of gardening in California in the open. There is no greensward like that velvet pile of bent grass which luxuriantly surrounds the lovely house. I am a lover of distances and of panoramic views and I never go to this garden without wishing to cast myself down in tears over the wasted view of the loveliest of bays and cities which is cut off, except through narrow unsatisfying glimpses, by huge pines.

Since nothing is easier than to criticize I'll have my fling and say if it belonged to me I'd get the sharpest axe I could find and hack and hack and hack till nothing stood between me and that surpassingly lovely view. Every one to his taste; cum gustibus non disputandum est. But with all its beauty the thing always gnawing at my vitals when I go to the Elliot gardens is the necessity for chopping out the lower branches of those trees.

From the Elliot gardens we went through the little side gate to the Studio and charming home garden of our noted artist of San Diego, Maurice Braun. Mrs. Braun always the charming hostess, perked up our hot selves with a soul satisfying punch in which a cake of green ice floated lusciously. Could anything be more perfect than punch and green ice on a hot day to put us in the right mood to appreciate the flower filled gay garden unobstructedly overlooking the loveliest view in the world! Flowers and sun and the lovely sea for a backyard and gray green foliage blending with the gray green shingles of the perfectly designed and fitting home of an artist and his hospitable wife.

All in all it was a heaven sent day; an incredibly enchanting day, replete with something of Paradise, only the esoteric flower lovers may know.—N. K. B.

AUGUST WEATHER IN SAN DIEGO

By Dean Blake

Midsummer is reached about the middle of August when the mean temperature is highest. The weather, though, is rarely warm or sultry and never oppressive, and the nights are uniformly mild and comfortable. Since the record began in 1872, the maximum temperature has gone above 90 degrees but thrice, and days above 80 degrees are by no means common.

(Continued on Page 15)

LATH HOUSE MATTERS

By Alfred D. Robinson

There are various wise sayings to prove what a rest has done for a whole line of animals from a dog to a giant but I cannot recall to mind one just to fit a lathhouse scribe who having worn out his readers and himself for a half score years of repetition, lay off for six months only to find himself full of ideas but lacking words for expression. Your lathhouses should be in their glory and your job one of watering and cleaning and most of all admiring. I am rather fed up with a numerous folk who come into my extensive lathed garden and sigh and say, "Of course my little lathhouse is nothing to yours." That I know for among my many visitors is not one that would have my garden as a gift if they had to take care of it off their own bat as I do. The lathed garden is proving as prolific of alibis as a golf game. It is a poor imagination that cannot find a goat in wind, soil, water or nematode and when these fail there is always bad luck. It is a bright spot in my young life when some lady tells me, "Your lathhouse may be larger but I have you beaten to a frazzle on this plant or the other." I don't make my lathhouse with any idea of comparison with others in my mind, I do it for myself, and darn the other fellow and I want you to do the same. You see I am still harping on an individual garden for the individual and for this my first mental meander after my sabbatical half year (I like the sound of that) I am going to talk about a treatment for small city gardens, not under lath but frilled with lath, so to speak.

Many times I have written and spoken about pergoling the small lot with lath on the pergola (this I believe the correct spelling though I have quite erudite friends who will talk of their perg-alo) covering thus the three sides with the house on the fourth, leaving the center open, but either I or my hearers have been so dumb that no real picture passed, so I have constructed an example and it is more charming and efficient than I ever dared to hope .The space is forty by sixty feet, a ten foot pergola lathed over runs round the two sixties and one forty. This leaves an open space twenty by fifty ,not that dimensions are a vital part of the plan, but folks always ask for them. We now have the ordinary back yard lathed around the sides but clear as to ground space and shaped like a coffin or the ordinary store room and probably scraped quite flat by the subdividing company. For myself the squareness and the flatness are impossible and uninteresting, so to get relief I lowered the center six inches, a foot would have been better, and used the material extracted to build up a bank along one side and the back, of course I had a wall against which to pile, and later broke the straight lines of these two sides with terraces in uneven curves. The paths, in this case, followed along the curves of an oval in the center, but garden paths like others made by sane folks and animals should start from somewhere to go somewhere else and the oval center was suggested because it fitted in with lines drawn from an entrance to points of probable destination. Then when beds and paths and terraces were in the plan, came the crux of the matter, where were the humans going to sit and play and enjoy, and a space was carved out of the end furthest from the house that would provide a choice of either sunshine or shade, I have tried to be general rather than particular in this description because the detail of the scheme is not important, it should change with location and individual preference. The important thing is to get a treatment of the small lot that will give a choice of sunshine and shade both for plants and humans without interfering with a pleasing ground plan, which a lathed structure with sides must do.

I have no intention of going into my planting in this intimate garden because its whole intention is to provide a condition under which anything can be planted and it does it. Lath house plants ,begonias, fern and fuchsias have flourished and the sun loving growths are equally happy. It is even conceivable that a cactus patch might find a warm enough spot in the center. Both grown-ups and children love this garden, the former rest in the shade or bask in the sun and the latter have a small section for their own weird culture. This kiddies garden is theirs absolutely with the sole proviso that they keep it reasonably tidy, and this means reasonably from their as well as their parents point of view. The two eight and six, two younger are negligible or worse, planned planted and tend but they know what most grown-ups have forgotten, that in the

doing lies the fun, so when every space was filled, they swapped plants around and no reader would believe how many times some plants have been transplanted. Nevertheless, everything grows. The bent grass lawn, two feet square, shames its fellow in the oval and the magenta impatiens I pulled up and threw in the waste barrel, flaunts its beastly blooms from this sanctuary. Perhaps the crowning touch of this interesting bit is a snail shell out of which a tiny fern throws a tender frond, such a dainty morsel for the original occupant if it were not long since dead, the victim of bootleg bran. The most humane Mikado had nothing over this kiddie when it came to making the punishment fit the crime. In the early stages of making, we grown-ups had a hard time to keep our tongues and our hands off the children's garden but we did it and still am I tempted as yesterday when I discovered conspicuously placed within the forbidden precincts my two first blooming gloxinias. I did say a few things and was told, "Well, we put others in their place." This was true but the substitutes neither had bloom nor sign of intention, still what could a mere man do when the other parent had evidently known of the rape and winked the other eye. The garden builders are girls, there is a boy who also homesteaded but after making a few paths straight as a cement auto highway he planted wrecks of miniature trucks and discarded tools, in fact it gave the impression of being a tool shed rather than a garden. The second day of his occupation I found him quite indignant, some misguided party had planted a fern right in his most used roadway. No wonder he gave it up and without another thought allowed his mother to go on with her darned fernery. It was in rather a conspicuous place. Perhaps you wonder at this fatuous parent twaddle but it has the intention of getting your interest aroused in a family garden, a place for flowers of course, but first and foremost a spot in which to live enjoyably.

THE SOLANUM VINES

Solanum Wendlandii bears large clusters of lavender flowers and at this season and throughout the summer and early fall is one of the very conspicuous and beautiful vines of our gardens. Each individual flower is often two inches in diameter. Though the foliage is coarse and has a few prickles it is very decorative and fits the coarse and heavy stems of the vine.

It is deciduous during the winter and does not bear much frost—and the new spring growth comes out late but grows fast. The profuse and large bunches of flowers during the spring almost cover the vine. A strong grower, needs water and fertilizer. Being a heavy vine a good supporting trellis or pergola is needed but it is very attractive climbing through a tree. Keeping the old flower sprays, as they mature, cut off, makes the vine continue its growth and blossoms.

Costa Rica is its native land and it is called the Giant Potato Climber.

A very conspicuous and well trained large specimen is on the east front of Mrs. Jas. Quirk's residence at Ingleside and Sunset Boulevard, Mission Hills.

Mrs. H. K. Trask, on Olivitas Street, La Jolla, has a fine vine trained over a six foot fence. Lately Mrs. Trask sent out invitations to friends for a "Solanum Tea", which was not only a pretty tribute to the vine but gave the friends much pleasure enjoying the vine and her charming enclosed garden for the afternoon.

Solanum Jasmonoides, commonly called the Potato Vine, is a native of South America. It is a very strong growing evergreen vine with graceful bunches of white flowers. A vine commendable for a new home because so responsive of growth and flowers. As it grows fast it needs trimming frequently to keep it in good condition and within bounds. This rule applies to all our large growing vines.

Another interesting Solanum Vine is the Solanum Seaforthianum, which bears a choice lavender cluster of flowers and has foliage similar to the white potato vine—but it is not so vigorous a grower. Its flowers are followed by clusters of a small bright red fruit.

Solanum Rantonnetti is one of our best shrubs—that stands pruning frequently and keeps well in bloom. Its flowers are a dark blue, and seldom develop seed—so the plant rarely has a shabby look. It can be trained into a formal standard with rounded top that holds its bright flowers well. It also can be trained as a vining shrub against or over a wall with excellent results. It is one of those very few and very good everbloomers.

The coarse shrub with decided thorns — commonly called Arfican Holly, is worth growing for its choice sprays of brilliant fruits during November and December, which make very lovely table decorations with autumn foilage and small fruits. It grows readily from seed but is only good for four or five years. Then raise new plants.

It is Solanum gigantea and came from Liberia, the West Coast of Africa.

—K. O. Sessions.

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GARDEN PROBLEMS

By Walter S. Merrill

The Problems of a Garden! At least, our editor has not been so unkind as to cramp the scope of my contributions to this page. For if there is anything in any way connected with gardening that is not a problem, will Pro Bono Publico kindly write a letter to the paper and tell what it is. The greatest charm of gardening is the fact that it is one huge mosaic of problems; and the scheming and searching to find the solutions, and the appeal to our gambling instincts of taking a chance on what of these seem best to us, are what make gardening the most enthralling of outdoor sports to a large percentage of our population.

Please do not think for a moment that I am conducting this page for the purpose of solving your problems for you. You are no gardener and no sport if you could even hope for such a thing. My answers to your puzzles more than probably would not suit you,—any more than much of the advice given to me seems weighty enough to follow. I often ask Miss Sessions or Mr. Robinson or Ralph Gonzalez, (who helps me in my garden) or many others, what is best to do under given circumstances,—and as often as not I go quite contrary to the advice given. Whether the results justify me or not has little bearing on my procedure the next time a question comes up. But what I really hope is to discuss the problems, big and little, that come to my notice; to show, if I can, how different people have solved them to their own satisfaction; and to try to encourage the readers to go ahead. do what they think best, and so achieve that feeling of smug contentment that comes from accomplishing, by their own initiative, things that seem good to look upon.

To do this I must criticize, favorably and unfavorably, the gardens that I see. I have visited many gardens during the last six months, and each has had a message for the real garden crank. I hope to continue to visit gardens, in San Diego and elwsehere; and, if I am to make this page of any value, I must talk about these gardens that I see. Occasionally, perhaps, I shall congratulate a gardener by name. But oftener the owner shall be anonymous, for I have no desire to lose all my gardening friends. More often than not these gardeners will recognize their own handiwork, even through my poor descriptions. If I laud to the skies something that you have done, just puff yourself up in your pride and mail many underlined copies to your Eastern friends, writing, "This is my garden." And if something else, of which you are very vain, fails to stir in my breast a similar thrill,—even if I write of it in a flippant or caustic style,—please do not take offense; just tell your friends that you have seen my garden,—and you don't think it is so much, yourself.

I do not know whether there has been ever a perfect garden or not;—but I am sure that, if there has been such an one, it has been perfect in the eyes of but one human being,—and to him but a very short time. Were this not true, there would be little incentive to garden. Should a painter work steadily on one canvas which, every morning, showed changes from the state in which he left it the night before,—changes in the color, the drawing and the very composition itself,—he would, in his striving for ultimate perfection, get something of the same thrill which the enthusiastic gardener gets in his struggle so to control his plants as to achieve the picture of which he dreams. The true gardener is as much an artist as is the painter, but he works in a far more difficult medium. His plants, unlike pigment, are slow to introduce into the composition, and even when introduced they are but slightly under control,—are constantly changing and of little permanence. Could the very finest gardens that have ever been made, at the moments that they have most nearly approached perfection, have been fixed permanently in that state by some process of ossification, their creators would rank as greater artists, I feel sure, than Corot, Turner, or the other great landscape painters.

This page is not designed as a Question and Answer department;—there are far better authorities than I ready to answer your queries. But I shall be very glad to hear from the readers of these articles. Write,—not to ask how to solve the problems of your garden,—but to tell me how you have succeeded in doing so to your own satisfaction. Address letters to Point Loma, California; and be assured of my interest, and that your stories will help to make these articles representative of the very diverse conditions confronting the readers of the California Garden.

Next month I hope to emphasize the value of foresight in gardening,—especially in the original lay-out of the ground,—and to comment on some gardens evidencing the frequent lack of this unfortunately rare virtue.

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WATER GARDENS

The heat (and the humidity) of which we are complaining lately are a blessing for the water gardens. All water plants glory in heat and are giving us their best blooms. Of course like all rules, there are exceptions to the warmth of the sun even in the Aquatics. The Water Hawthorne is distinctly a lover of cool weather and is a winter bloomer—the only one listed. But there is a new favorite, the Shell Flower, (which, by the way, isn't a flower at all) that loves almost entire shade. Though it demands warm water and refuses to live ever in our outside pools. It is inexpensive and its beautiful light green leaves are shaped like a clam shell and the plant grows by runners.

We thought the Pickerel Plant was pretty with the purple blooms coming from near the top of each leaf but the new Azure variety is vastly superior. It will grow five feet in height and the sky blue blossoms are fully double the size of the old variety.

The tropical lilies are making up the lost time caused by the cold of early spring, and will have four to six buds and blossoms all the time. They are all good, all fragrant, but some are doubly so.

And the colorings are so varied, the stamens and the petals and the sepals often being an entirely different shade. The Panama Pacific and the August Koch are splendid examples of this varied coloring. Mrs. Whittaker is a beautiful sky blue—a foot across and only one variety so far as known.

This spring I was exploring unknown fields and in an order to an eastern firm I included a "dark" Mrs. Whittaker—it blossomed dark alright but proves to be Panama Pacific. Perhaps they know not—perhaps they were just looking for sales, but either way this is just a caution against expecting Mrs. Whittaker to have any brunette relatives.

Tropicals in the other colors than blue are always magnificent, but these colors can also be obtained in hardy lilies. And I have so many requests for a hardy blue. All kinds will usually stand our mild winters, just by being left undisturbed in their boxes in the pools till spring cleaning time. Although, if you are a little fearful to venture into tropical fields, I think you will find the Star varieties can be relied upon to come up smiling when the water gets warm in the spring.

There are so many varieties in the hardy lilies that one can suit his fancy. The old standard Marliacs, in white, pink, rose and yellow cannot be beaten. The red Marliac is a poor bloomer for me. But in newer lilies the sunset shades are always attractive, Aurora, Indiana and Comanche being very free blooming, the Aurora is especially good for tubs.

Sumptuosa is one of the best medium price pinks.

Mrs. Richmond is gorgeous but she is exclusive—doesn't believe in raising a large family, therefore the price is high.

Night bloomers are not expensive and are the most magnificent in coloring, but all advice is to consider them as annuals, in open pools.

So many water plants are cheap: Poppy Hyacinth, Canna, Arrowhead, Snowflake, that one can have the pleasure of a water garden at little cost. Lilies vary from $1 up to $25.

You can raise water lilies from seed, they will bloom in three months and it is an interesting experiment.

Hardy lilies can be planted, or moved, at any time. Tropicals only when water is warm.

And the subject of Water Gardens is like all subjects, i. e.: the more you know, the more you find out how big it is and how little you know.—Mrs. W. S. Thomas.

WHAT IRIS SHALL I BUY?

Iris planting time is close at hand and as the past season has proved that most of the species and varieties are quite happy in the soil and climate of San Diego, this article is presented with the idea of helping the inexperienced to choose a satisfactory collection as to color, heighth, and the proper soil to prepare for them.

Perhaps the first group to consider may well be the bulbous types which thrive here and bloom early. The brilliant blue Xiphiodides or English Iris and the Dutch Iris with its wider color range make fine beds for large gardens but are effective in small gardens if two or three are planted here and there in mixed borders or near pools and birdpaths. They need richer and moister soil than the Spanish Iris. These grow so well in San Diego and there are so many improved varieties that every garden should possess many.

The next group that seems to flourish remarkably in the dry climate is the beardless or Apogons. I saw some beautiful specimens of ochraleuca, spurias, and aureas in local gardens this Spring. Some were planted in tubs submerged in pools, but the handsomest ones were in a border kept moderately damp. A most beautiful exhibit of I. Sibericasanguinaria was exhibited in the Spring show. It gets its name from the red purple tinges at the base of the leaves and the spathes. There are several gardens that grow other varieties of sibericas and orientalis.

The Moreas are not usually classed as Iris but Bailey states that it is the representative Iris of Africa. It is also called the Natal Lily

from that section of Africa. Its stiff flax-like leaves are always attractive and all through the year it has surprise parties and bursts into bloom when you least expect it. During the spring and summer it blooms every fortnight and although the blossoms only last a few days they are as lovely as all things that last but a short time .Try a vase of morea and blue salvia if you wish an exquisite effect.

Hoogiana and Suisiana did not do well for the writer but they have for others so we will try again.

Stylosa can always be depended on and will give you winter blooms. They should be planted in September.

The pogon or German Iris has been proven a good grower in San Diego and unless one is a collector it is well to know the color classifications if one is particular about their garden color scheme. The following are all Pallidas in blue lavender tones. They are tall well branched varieties and should be used in mixed borders for background or in beds on terraces, Caterina, Juniata, Mesapotamica, Lady Foster, Albert Victor, Ballerine, Pallida, and Baronet are all good choice. For darker blue tall growers try Esplendido and Souvenir de Madame Gaudichaud and for low mass planting Mrs. J. J. Deane and the fine old varieties as Chester Hunt or Perfection and Firmament.

Red or pink lavender are found in the following, all of which are tall or medium, Avalon, Mother of Pearl, San Gabriel are lovely in clumps and Mrs. Alan Gray and Lohengrin good for mass and landscape planting.

The finest pink that I saw this Spring was Dream but Queen of May, Her Majesty, Roseway, Caprice and Phyllis Bliss are all beautiful.

For vivid yellow a low grower, Sherwin Wright is good around pools and on terraces. Fro, Iris King and other varieties give the same color effect in masses for landscaping although their falls are brown or plum. The more delicate shades of yellow are found in Primavera, Virginia Moore, Shekina and Soledad. All these are moderately low in heighth.

Purple or plum shades for backgrounds and borders are found in the stately Eduourd Michel and Pauline, Opera and Seminole, Morning Splendor. For low effect nothing excells Purple King.

Tall white or those plicatas and light tinted varieties that in mass give a white effect are found in Kashimir White, Fairy, Madame Cherou, Jeanne D' Arc, Parisiena. Low growing white are Albicans, Mrs. H. Darwin and Florentina.

The bronze shades of Jacquesiana, Prosper Laugier, Dr. Berenice are best in large beds but can be used to advantage with paler colored companions in borders .All of this type are usually low growers.

Alcazar, Isoline, Quaker Lady, Steepway, Wyomissing Demi Deul and other odd color combinations are best in mass plantings.

The wonderful tall growing showy varieties are so numerous that it is difficult to suggest them all but here are a few that every garden should possess and are good for mass or just one clump here and there. Asia, Magnifica, Leverrier, Lent, Williamson, Balboa, Ambassadeur, Monsignor and Prospero are all satisfying.

I would like to say that the most satisfactory Iris in my garden are some seedlings created by a California grower and in color, texture, and growing habits far exceed my most rare and expensive varieties.

This has only touched on the subject of choosing Iris for the California garden but let us hope that it will be the means of assisting in the buying and planting of more Iris, the poor mans orchid.

THE HOME GARDEN HANDBOOKS

IRISES

By F. F. Rockwell

(The Macmillan Co., 1928; $1.00)

This is a primer of Iris and in general inception a very practical one, giving a concise elementary account of the types of this flower, their respective adaptabilities and differences in cultural requirements ,with lists of recommended varieties (taken according to rank from the recent A. I. S. symposium and therefore, it must be said, not too well adapted for California gardens without careful censorship.) There are also some recommendations of Irises for special purposes and a brief chapter on propagating and hybridizing which will be greedily devoured by many an aspiring amateur, if the reviewer is able to judge by the interest constantly shown in such work by visitors to his own garden. "The gardener," says the author, "who does not possess a fairly representative collection of Irises is overlooking one of the most consistently satisfactory of all plants," and he calls attention to what he terms the paradoxical position occupied by the Iris, than which no flower "is, perhaps, so universally appreciated" or "less often found in any considerable variety in the average home garden," a condition which a convenient manual like this should do much to remedy. Stress is properly laid upon good drainage as the first essential of successful Iris growing.

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It is a pity to have to pick flaws in a needed handbook on the whole so well conceived. It should not go unmentioned, however, that a more natural or scientific arrangement of the varied types would have improved the treatment in practice as in theory, that some confusion is evident in the legends accompanying certain of the illustrations, and that there is prevalent now and then a looseness of statement, such as "The true Iris germanica species—a very early garden hybrid," and similar impossibilities, which should have been caught at the first proof-reading.

The well-pointed introduction by R. S. Sturtevant and the captivating style of the drawings round off a useful booklet which every beginner in Iris culture ought to make his immediate first possession.—S. S. B.

INSECTS ON WAY TO RULE WORLD

BERKELEY, August 4.—For all that man has been able to do there is nothing to prevent insects from increasing in such numbers as to eventually rule the world. There is no known destructive insect which man has succeeded in controlling. All of them have been more widely distributed and given the opportunity to increase in numbers through man's activities.

These facts have just been pointed out by Professor E .O. Essig of the University of California department of entomology, in an article written for the Scientific Monthly.

He says in part "The dominance of man in this age of the world is evident in many respects. That he now effectually rules the land, air and water cannot be denied. That he has at least partly subjugated other living forms may be admitted. But the story is not yet concluded. In the world of minute organisms what has been done to subjugate the millions of pestiferous bacteria and protozoans, some of which at times cause man to appear helpless? And the fungous diseases which continue to cut down his food supply? At best he can only temporarily stay their advance."

Concerning the present status of the fight against many of the common pests he says: "The San Jose scale was introduced into California prior to 1873 by a prominent and wealthy citizen who admired the beauty of the Nipponese flowering fruit trees. In a few years it ravaged every deciduous fruit orchard throughout the United States and Canada, and not stopping there, has since spread to all the temperate regions of the world. The codling-moth, the gypsy moth, the brown tail moth, the cottony cushion scale, black scale, red scale, and scales of other hues, the cotton boll weevil, pink bollworm, the Japanese beetle, the granary weevil, rice weevil, vegetable weevil, Hessian fly. chinch bug, sugar-cane leafhopper, and, in fact, every serious insect pest has a similar history. Everyone of them has its distribution extended; its food supply enlarged; its activities increased, and its numbers greatly multiplied by the intervention of man. I can think of no instance where a notable decrease in distribution or numbers from the original status of any insect has been brought about by the human race! Therefore, it appears that the entomological prophets of our times who predict a winning contest for the insects have some basis for their arguments.

"The insects have so far maintained themselves on this earth much longer than any other living type of higher animals, and very much longer than man. For this reason it may be assumed that insects are capable of withstanding a much greater variety of conditions than the human race.

"The greatest task now ahead of man is to do away with the destructive smaller forms of life. To me this task does not seem at all hopeless. Ours is not the menial chore so often alluded to as 'chasing bugs,' but rather the gigantic task of saving the human race."

RAINFORD FLOWER SHOP

Cut Flowers
Floral Designs

1115 Fourth Street *San Diego*

THE UNCONVENTIONAL GARDEN

By Sir Arthur Hort, Bart., M. A.

(Edward Arnold & Co., London, 1928)

Once in a while, as an interruption to the never-ending run of beginner's manuals, some good, a few outstanding, but the majority mediocre and not destined to live long, there appears a really individual and worth-while book on some more special phase of gardening. The English are much better at this latter type of effort than we in this country have yet learned to be. They somehow know the value of conveying information in the highest degree authoritative while clothing its spirit and method in the medium of homely chat, the humor of their frequently whimsical philosophy is suited both to the subject and its treatment, and they do not (as a rule, anyhow) endlessly gush. We read the works of Robinson, Jekyll, Farrer, Dykes,—even ancient Parkinson,—and what is more we reread them,—but tire of them we never do. So another delightful garden book out of old England is quite what we should by now have come to expect. This time it is one more sedate than Farrer, altogether more restrained in its humor and enthusiasms, but not devoid of cheery quizzical touches, glimpses, no doubt, of the more intimate personality of the author, and as full as Farrer of pleasant garden adventure. Of course such a book is not for forthright beginners so much as for those who have passed the earlier grades of garden kindergarten and are prepared by now to indulge in a little adventuring for themselves, but for them it will be a fascination and a delight.

In plan the book has been arranged in two sections which, however, do not stand in such contrast to one another as their titles might indicate, for the one ,"The Calendar," reveals itself as by no means a formal successional catalogue, but rather a chatty relation of such informal garden gossip as the author finds brought to mind by mention of the month at the beginning of his chapter, and therefore there is no real hiatus when the other main section, "Plants and their Places," is taken up. "May," for instance, gets started on the subject of blue flowers, mainly borages and gentians, and reaches the end of its allotted space before aught else can squeeze in, and we must pass to June, leaving therefore very many matters to go over to the latter part of the book. Other months fare similarly. Of course the garden calendar is not the same in England as here, not even quite always successionally, and climate and soils are different in many respects, but it is astonishing how much lore can be gleaned for any region from the experiences of a horticulturist truly catholic, always replete with suggestions of new things for us to try, or new ways of the old ones. The author's work with Irises is well known among fanciers of these flowers, and one delightful chapter is appropriately devoted to this protean genus. Yet he has other favorites and through the book much attention is given to daffodils and squills (notably the wild Pyrenean forms), to crocuses and anemones, to helianthemums and veronicas. There is a chapter on rock gardens, largely given to a consideration of the species of but two genera, Saxifraga and Dianthus, another on "Wild Corners," where certain undesirables find their evil characters righteously exposed. A reprint of an earlier article on "Some Pyrenean Plants at Home" is added as an Appendix.

The book is without illustrations, in fact does not sorely need them. Happily, there is a good index.

S. S. BERRY.

AUGUST WEATHER

(Continued from Page 8)

So little rain falls that its occurrence might be regarded as an accident, and, like July, thunderstorms are rare and never severe or destructive. Windstorms are unknown, the greatest velocity during the month being 25 miles per hour. With the prevailing winds from the ocean, the humidity necessarily continues high, and considerable cloudiness obtains along the coast.

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MINIATURE GARDEN ORNAMENTS

The following is an account of how I have made small ornaments for the garden in cement, and may possibly interest some of your readers. My efforts so far have been confined to making ducks and swans for use in the pools in my garden. I obtain from a toy shop a celluloid model of the article I wish to make; those I have used are, I believe ,made as children's bath toys, but I daresay a variety of things suitable for garden ornaments can be obtained. The model I use as a mould, and in the case of a duck or swan I proceed as follows:

First I cut out a piece about the size of a threepenny piece behind the head, then cut out most of the base, afterwards making a composition of 1 part cement, half part fine sand and 1 part ground limestone. Probably cement and fine sand will do just as well, but I find the addition of the ground limestone gives a pleasing color to the finished article. The ingredients are mixed well together, dry, then water is applied and all mixed thoroughly. The model is filled with this composition.

It is advisable to fill the head and bill first, and, before doing this, to put two small holes in the model at the end of the beak, also small holes in various parts to allow the air to be expelled and the cement to come into perfect contact when the head and beak are thoroughly filled. This will be indicated by a little oozing out at the small air holes. Reinforce by pushing a thin nail or piece of wire in the cement to the end of the beak, then cover the hole behind the head with a strip of rag tied on. Then I proceed to fill the neck and body from the base, reinforcing (especially the neck) with nails or wire. When filled, I put it aside to harden. I find it convenient to put the filled model in a box of sand, head down, base on the surface.

It is left to dry for about ten days, then in the open air a light is applied to the covering, this will flare up and burn off very quickly. With a brush I take off the black deposit then put it in water for a few hours, and then brush up again. The result is a very effective garden ornament. Any small defects can be touched up with similar composition to that with which the mould was filled.—S. Thompson, Lancaster, in Popular Gardening.

BILLIONS OF INSECTS PROPAGATED FOR FIGHTING PESTS

RIVERSIDE, August 4.—Billions of Trichogramma, a tiny insect that attacks indiscriminately the eggs of almost every insect pest, have been bred through the system developed by Dr. Stanley E. Flanders, formerly entomologist with the California Walnut Growers Association, but now a member of the University of California Citrus Experiment Station staff here.

The Trichogramma is a minute insect of the wasp family, and it oviposits its eggs in the eggs of other insects. Any insect egg laid in the open becomes a prey for the parasitic Trichogramma; this makes natural breeding and control difficult, for once a numerous enemy is nearly exterminated, the predatory and helpful insect turns it attention to others.

Propagating Method Found

Dr. Flanders has worked out a system, however, whereby he induces the Trichogramma to lay its eggs in captivity, in those of a well known host, usually a grain moth. The eggs are then shipped in cartons of 30,000 and are liberated wherever insect pest danger is imminent. When they are released in a walnut or pear orchard, codling moths will become scarce, it is said.

When they are needed, the containers are taken from a storage incubator and shipped on their way. By closely observing pest conditions, the farmer should be able, it is said, to secure all the Trichogramma ready and at the necessary time. The insect has been observed for 101 years, but never before has it been artificially raised to assist agriculture.

CLASSIFIED LIST OF DAFFODILS

The Royal Horticultural Society, Vincent Square, London, England, has just issued a revised edition of the above, copies of which may be obtained from the secretary at 25c. This valuable little manual contains the names of all Narcissi, new and old, as well as particulars of the Society's classification and system of registration. Several thousands of varieties are given with names of raisers, date of introduction and key letter to indicate the class to which each variety belongs. No descriptions are given, however. Many hundreds of names are given in a separate list of varieties that have been superseded by newer forms.

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